

using a different transport medium from another source, to identify preference lists for the identified user;

presenting the identified preference lists to the user;

receiving a selection of a presented identified preference list from the user;

accessing the selected preferences list; and

selecting one of the plurality of identified channels from one of the plurality of different sources for provision to the user.

2. (Unchanged) The computerized method of claim 1, further comprising:  
providing, to the user, one or more of audio and video from a source  
corresponding to the selected one of the plurality of identified channels.

3. (Unchanged) The computerized method of claim 1, further comprising:  
accessing, to determine a component corresponding to the selected one of the  
plurality of identified channels, a programming guide database that is independent of the  
user-definable preferences list; and  
sending a signal to the component to provide the selected channel.

4. (Unchanged) The computerized method of claim 1, further comprising:  
receiving a user request to provide a new channel; and  
wherein the accessing and the selecting are performed in response to the user  
request.

5. (Unchanged) The computerized method of claim 4, further comprising:  
repeating the accessing and selecting in response to subsequent user requests to  
provide a new channel.

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6. (Amended) An article comprising:  
a storage medium; and  
the storage medium having stored thereon a plurality of instructions that, when  
executed by a processor, result in:  
receiving a user identification;  
searching a set of user-definable preference lists that each identify a plurality of  
channels from a plurality of different sources, each source providing at least one channel  
using a different transport medium from another source, to identify preference lists for  
the identified user;  
presenting the identified preference lists to the user;  
receiving a selection of a presented identified preference list from the user;  
accessing the selected preferences list; and  
selecting one of the plurality of identified channels from one of the plurality of  
different sources for provision to the user.

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7. (Unchanged) The article of claim 6, wherein the plurality of instructions,  
when executed by the processor, further result in providing, to the user, one or more of  
audio and video from a source corresponding to the selected one of the plurality of  
identified channels.

8. (Unchanged) The article of claim 6, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by the processor, further result in accessing, to determine a component corresponding to the selected one of the plurality of identified channels, a programming guide database that is independent of the user-definable preferences list, and sending a signal to the component to provide the selected channel.

9. (Unchanged) The article of claim 6, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by the processor, further result in receiving a user request to provide a new channel, wherein the accessing and the selecting are performed in response to the user request.

10. (Unchanged) The article of claim 9, wherein the plurality of instructions, when executed by the processor, further result in repeating the accessing and selecting in response to subsequent user requests to provide a new channel.

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11. (Amended) An apparatus comprising:

C3 a storage device to store a set of user-definable preferences list that identify a plurality of channels from a plurality of different sources, each source providing at least one channel using a different transport medium from another source;

a user interface controller to receive a user identification;

a channel selector, coupled to the storage device and the user interface, to search the set of user-definable preference lists to identify preference lists for the identified user

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and select one of the identified preference lists using input received from the user interface controller; and

a channel selection controller, coupled to the storage device, to access the selected user-definable preferences list and select one of the plurality of identified channels for provision to the user.

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12. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 11, further comprising:  
a component controller coupled to the channel selection controller;  
wherein the channel selection controller is to send the selected one of the plurality of identified channels to the component controller, and  
wherein the component controller is to tune a corresponding component to provide, to the user, one or more of audio and video from a source corresponding to the selected one of the plurality of identified channels.

13. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the channel selection controller is further to:  
access, to determine a component corresponding to the selected one of the plurality of channels, a programming guide database that is independent of the user definable preferences list; and send a signal to the component to provide the selected channel.

14. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the channel selection controller is further to:

receive a user request to provide a new channel; and  
wherein the accessing and the selecting are performed in response to the user request.

15. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the channel selection controller is further to repeat the accessing and selecting in response to subsequent user requests to provide a new channel.

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16. (Amended) An apparatus comprising:  
means for storing a user-definable preferences list that identifies a plurality of channels from a plurality of different sources, each source providing at least one channel using a different transport medium from another source;  
means for receiving a user identification;  
means, coupled to the storage device and the user interface, for searching the set of user-definable preference lists to identify preference lists for the identified user and for selecting one of the identified preference lists using input received from the user interface controller; and  
means, coupled to the storage device, for accessing the selected user-definable preferences list and selecting one of the plurality of identified channels for provision to the user.

17. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 16, further comprising:  
means, coupled to the means for accessing and selecting, for controlling  
components in an entertainment system; and  
wherein the means for accessing and selecting is for sending the selected one of  
the plurality of identified channels to the means for controlling, and wherein the means  
for controlling is for tuning a corresponding component of the entertainment system to  
provide, to the user, one or more of audio and video from a source corresponding to the  
selected one of the plurality of identified channels.

18. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the means for accessing  
and selecting includes:

means for accessing, to determine a component corresponding to the selected one  
of the plurality of identified channels, a programming guide database that is independent  
of the user-definable preferences list; and

means for sending a signal to the component to provide the selected channel.

19. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the means for accessing  
and selecting includes:

means for receiving a user request to provide a new channel; and

wherein the accessing and the selecting are performed in response to the user  
request.

20. (Unchanged) The apparatus of claim 19, wherein the means for accessing and selecting includes means for repeating the accessing and selecting in response to subsequent user requests to provide a new channel.

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21. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising providing an indication to the user when the user has completed a cycle of the selected preferences list.

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22. (New) The method of claim 1, further comprising automatically selecting additional ones of the plurality of identified channels at predetermined intervals.

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23. (New) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein the channel selector provides an indication to the user when the user has completed a cycle of the selected preferences list.

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24. (New) The method of claim 11, wherein the channel selector automatically selects additional ones of the plurality of identified channels at predetermined intervals.

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25. (New) A method comprising:  
accessing a user-definable preferences list that identifies a plurality of channels from a plurality of different sources, each source providing at least one channel using a different transport medium from another source;

selecting one of the plurality of identified channels from one of the plurality of different sources for provision to a user;

selecting additional ones of the plurality of identified channels for provision to the user; and

providing an indication to the user when the user has completed a cycle of the preferences list.

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(New) The method of claim **25**, wherein selecting additional ones comprises automatically selecting additional ones of the plurality of identified channels at predetermined intervals.

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(New) The method of claim **25**, wherein provision to the user comprises providing, to the user, one or more of audio and video from a source corresponding to the selected one of the plurality of identified channels.

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(New) The method of claim **25**, wherein selecting additional ones comprises receiving a user request to provide a new channel and selecting additional ones of the plurality of identified channels for provision to the user in response to the user request.

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(New) An apparatus comprising:  
a preferences database to store a set of user-definable preferences lists, each associated with a user, the lists identifying a plurality of channels from a plurality of



different sources, each source providing at least one channel using a different transport medium from another source

a channel selector to access one of the user-definable preferences lists, to select one of the plurality of identified channels from one of the plurality of different sources for provision to the user, and to select additional ones of the plurality of identified channels for provision to the user; and

a user interface controller to provide an indication to the user when the user has completed a cycle of the preferences list.

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(New) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the channel controller selects additional ones by automatically selecting additional ones of the plurality of identified channels at predetermined intervals.

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(New) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein further comprising a component controller to provide, to the user, one or more of audio and video from a source corresponding to the selected one of the plurality of identified channels.

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(New) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the channel controller selects additional ones based on user requests received from the user interface controller.

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(New) The apparatus of claim 29, wherein the channel controller accesses one of the user-definable preferences lists by identifying a set of preferences lists using a user identification received from the user interface controller, receiving a selection of one

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of the identified user-definable preferences lists from the user interface controller and  
accessing the selected user-definable preferences list.

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